

Local climate disaster aversion strategies (Recycling & reusing ect.):

Biological research, as is, has tremendous negative environmental impact. Please do your part to minimize our lab's contribution.

Energy: When equipment is not in use or it's the end of the day, turn it off (centrifuges, lights, tissue culture hoods). When centrifuges are set to 4 degrees, do not leave them open. Trying to cool off the lab this way is a huge waste of energy and tough on the centrifuge. When the centrifuges are turned off, leave the lids open to avoid growing mold in the machines.

Reusing plastics: many of the commonly used plastics in the lab can be reused across many experiments if they are washed properly, this is especially true for gut prep consumables. This includes falcon tubes, 6/24 well plates, and serological pipettes. Added bonus, much less labeling of tubes if you reuse them.

If items cannot be reused, make every effort to recycle properly. This includes separating paper and different types of plastics. For example, separate the plastic and paper components of serological pipette wrappers and the cardboard and plastic components of sheath fluid containers. Recycling bins are clearly labelled throughout the lab. If you aren't sure about recycling something, speak up, lab members are happy to help.

To minimize food packaging waste, please feel free to use containers and dishware available in the breakroom, just make sure you wash it.

Speak up if you have ideas about shrinking the lab's/university's environmental impact. We want to improve and discuss new ideas.